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Reduction in Charges of Money Order

1354. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any study has been done to find ways and means to reduce the charges of money orders by Postal Department;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to utilise FAX/TELEX/STD facility to reduce charges of delivery of money orders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Rates of all postal services including Money Orders are reviewed as a part of the annual budgetary exercise. Charges for Money Orders like most Postal Services are fixed keeping all relevant considerations in view. The existing rate of commission for Money Orders, fixed on 11.6.90, are not adequate to cover the cost of operation of this service as estimated for the years 1995-96 and 1996-97.

(c) and (d) Money Order Service reaches cash to the payee and it requires specific security and accounting procedure for monitoring. Delivery through FAX/Telex/STD cannot fulfil these essential requirements of the service.

12.00 NOON

[THE DY. CHAIRMAN, *in the Chair]*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Memorandum of Understanding between Govt, of India & Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Ltd.

II. Memorandum of Understanding between Govt, of India and Water Power Consultancy Services Ltd.

जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र): मान्यवर मैं